



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Sandy Adkins
Communications Specialist
National Center for State Courts
757.259.1515
sadkins@ncsc.org

NCSC Selects Robert A. Zastany for Warren E. Burger Society Induction Recognizes Role in Professional Development of Court Staff

Williamsburg, Va. (Nov. 15, 2010) — Robert A. Zastany, executive director of the Administrative Office of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of Lake County, Ill., will be inducted into the Warren E. Burger Society during the National Center for State Courts' (NCSC) Annual Recognition Luncheon on Friday, Nov. 19. The luncheon, which will be held at the Mandarin Oriental hotel in Washington, D.C., will be hosted by Texas Chief Justice Wallace B. Jefferson, chair of NCSC's Board of Directors.

The Warren E. Burger Society honors individuals who have volunteered their time, talent, and support to the National Center in exceptional ways. It is named for the former chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court who helped found the NCSC in 1971.

Zastany has been executive director of the Administrative Office of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit since 1984. He also has worked for the Oklahoma Administrative Office of the Judiciary, the Warren/Trumbull County, Ohio, courts, and NCSC. He has served on the faculty of the National Center's Institute for Court Management (ICM), and developed a partnership program that enabled Illinois court staff to attend ICM's classes at a local community college. Zastany also volunteered as a consultant with NCSC's International Division in Kosovo by sharing his skills and experience with the judiciary of that country.

He is an active member of the National Association for Court Management, has served on its Board of Directors, and is a three-time recipient of the association's Lady of Justice Award. He is a certified government performance manager and an ICM fellow, and received ICM's Star Award in 2009 and the National Center's Distinguished Service Award in 1996. Zastany received his master's and bachelor's degree from Youngstown State University.

Burger Society inductees are selected by a committee chaired by Texas attorney Charles M. Noteboom, who commissioned a portrait of Chief Justice Burger that hangs in the National Center's headquarters in Williamsburg, Va. Each inductee receives a limited edition of that portrait, which is signed and numbered by the artist, Fran Di Giacomo. There are 1,986 prints of the portrait, the first two of which are owned by Chief Justice Burger's children and the last of which was owned by the late U.S. Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, who took his oath from the retiring Chief Justice Burger in 1986.

The National Center for State Courts, headquartered in Williamsburg, Va., is a nonprofit court reform organization dedicated to improving the administration of justice by providing leadership and service to the state courts. Founded in 1971 by the Conference of Chief Justices and Chief Justice of the United States Warren E. Burger, NCSC provides education, training, technology, management, and research services to the nation's state courts.

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